

1                           ABSTRACT

2         A method in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention includes  
3         making a first quantitative measurement, dispensing a number of media sheets from the  
4         stack, and making a second quantitative measurement, wherein the quantitative  
5         measurement can be, for example, the weight of the stack or the thickness of the stack.  
6         A ratio is calculated such that the ratio is equal to the number of sheets dispensed  
7         divided by the difference in the first and second quantitative measurements. The ratio  
8         can then be multiplied by the second quantitative measurement to establish an  
9         estimated number of media sheets remaining in the stack at the time the second  
10       quantitative measurement was made.